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NEWS RELEASE

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Company Accused of Foreign Currency Investment Fraud

Investors gave \$6.7 million for foreign exchange trading; promoter used money for personal expenses, including buying a baseball team . . .

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – The Utah Division of Securities issued an order to show cause today accusing Darin L. Kracl, of Salt Lake, and his company, Advanced Trading Solutions, LLC, of securities fraud for taking \$6.7 million from investors based on claims he was an expert foreign exchange trader. The order to show cause seeks to have Kracl and his company ordered to cease and desist violating the law and to pay fines that can be used to reimburse customers.

According to the order to show cause, Kracl convinced two investors that he was skilled in foreign exchange (forex) trading. He said he had been trading since 2004 and had developed a proprietary trading platform worth over \$1 million. Kracl said he had \$12 million under management and made an average monthly return of 47.5% for the accounts he managed. Kracl also claimed he traded accounts for celebrities such as Charles Barkley and Evander Holyfield. He said he had never had a losing month. The investors gave him \$6.7 million to invest.

The Division alleges that in January 2007, an investigator for the Division contacted Kracl about his trading. Kracl said he was trading only his own funds. Kracl was warned that if he traded any investor funds, he needed to be licensed. Over the next several months, Kracl took an additional \$6.6 million from the investors. In February, Kracl told his investors their account had grown 21.6% and sent them an account statement he had created.

According to the Division, much of the money received from investors was used for Kracl's personal expenses, including \$395,437 to a title company, \$869,600 in vehicle purchases, \$288,000 withdrawn in cash, \$327,000 to purchase a minor league baseball team, and \$2.1 million paid to others. The investors received \$1.7 million in supposed profits from the investment in the first part of 2007 but are still owed over \$6.7 million in investment principal.

The Division alleges that Kracl's claims about his forex trading skills and prior successes were false. He failed to tell investors about his background, including that he pled guilty to criminal charges in 1992. Investors were not told that the money would be used to pay personal expenses.

The order to show cause seeks to have an administrative law judge order Kracl and Advanced Trading Solutions to cease and desist violating the law and pay fines of \$500,000 each. A hearing will be held on March 18, 2008 to determine whether they dispute the Division's allegations.